

BUKOVSKY SEES GAIN IN CARTER MEETING

Russian Says Soviet Dissidents Will Benefit Over Long Run

BY DAVID BINDER

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WASHINGTON, March 2—Vladimir K. Bukovsky, the deported Russian rights activist, said today that his meeting with President Carter might cause worse treatment for dissidents in the Soviet Union for a time, but that continuing American commitment on the issue could only bring improvements in the long run.

He read a statement in English calling yesterday's White House meetings with Mr. Carter and Vice President Mondale "an event of considerable historical significance."

"It left me with the impression that our problems are understood and that both the President and the Vice President are well informed on the subject," he said.

Asked about Mr. Carter's refusal to be photographed with Mr. Bukovsky for the press, the Russian said a White House photographer had taken pictures of the two together.

"I saw no desire on the part of the Administration to belittle the event in any way to please the Soviet authorities," he remarked. "The Soviet authorities couldn't care less about a photograph. It was the meeting that counted."

'A Matter of Great Responsibility'

Speaking occasionally in English, but mostly in Russian, Mr. Bukovsky said he had felt tense about the meeting because "I took this as a matter of great responsibility."

He appeared to be at ease with reporters in the home of a Russian-American, sipping an aperitif and smoking an occasional filter cigarette. Mr. Bukovsky, who spent 11 of his 34 years in Soviet jails and labor camps, was expelled from his country last December in exchange for release by Chile of the Communist leader, Luis Corvalán.

Mr. Bukovsky said he had met with Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn, the exiled Russian writer, in Vermont and would meet with other Russian exiles in New York before returning to his home in Zurich.

He said it was not his intention to participate in coordinated political actions against the Soviet leadership, as other exiles have proposed.

"We are not politicians and we are not trying to create political programs," he said.

He said that he would probably spend the rest of the year working on a book before resuming the study of biology, at Cambridge University in 1978.

Mr. Bukovsky said his main message to Mr. Carter was not to flag in his commitment to the human rights cause. The Russian also remarked that he did not expect the Carter Administration's emphasis on rights to hinder arms control agreements with the Soviet Union.

"Disarmament offers much greater advantage to the Soviet Union than to the United States," he asserted, because the Soviet leadership could be sure of Western compliance without having to comply fully with agreements on its side.

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